

Northern Ontario Pipe Line Corporation

At the present time we need the gas for industry up north. I have been told that we need it also for new industry. No less than the minister of mines of Ontario, who happens to be a Conservative, said on November 25, 1954:

Months of effort ended, pipe line through north—Kelly.

Lately Mr. Spooner, the provincial member for the riding of South Cochrane—and by the way, he is a Conservative member as well—is reported as follows:

Spooner stresses need for gas in the north

Already the Ontario municipal board has given the gas company the red light to start installing the pipe and all the needed accessories in towns like Hearst, Kapuskasing, Smooth Rock Falls, Cochrane, Iroquois Falls, and so on. In my home town of Kapuskasing we have the Spruce Falls Power and Paper Company and Kimberly-Clark. By a mere coincidence all their production is going to the *New York Times*, and we do not oppose that at all. That company will be using 2½ million cubic feet of that gas a day, and they are in dire need of it because, on account of the dry weather last summer, they were very much afraid they would have to curtail their operations. In fact, if one should know about gas it is the Leader of the Opposition himself. He is aware that to supply that company with the necessary power in 1953 a line was built from Crystal Falls to Kapuskasing, a distance of something like 250 miles; otherwise they would have had to close down.

There is another Abitibi Pulp and Paper Company mill at Smooth Rock Falls. There is one also at Iroquois Falls. The Abitibi production is going to the *Chicago Tribune*. We do not oppose that at all; we are satisfied with that. They are also in need of power.

As the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys said the other night, northern Ontario is one of the richest storehouses of mineral wealth in the world. I was glad to hear the minister say that. To justify that statement, may I say I hold in my hand an editorial from the *Timmins Daily Press*, dated July 7, 1955, which reads:

Ore Find Near Kapuskasing of Tremendous Interest

A report, which may have important economic repercussions in the north, came from Kapuskasing last week. It was to the effect that Algoma Steel, Bethlehem Steel and United States Steel are bidding on iron ore deposits found 30 miles north of the pulp and paper town.

The report said that the first drill core from the deposit had assayed 50 per cent magnetite and 2 per cent titanium. The presence of titanium, it is stated, means that the ore is easily refined and is thus more valuable.

While information at this stage is sketchy, "reliable sources" believe that the deposits could be vast. One informant has described the assay from first drilling as "richer than Steep Rock's richest".

[Mr. Habel.]

At Kapuskasing, in fact, a company paid \$1 million for a claim in the north about three weeks ago. At Hearst lately, seven big firms have become interested in copper-nickel showings discovered last summer. I find this report in the *Northern Tribune*:

Seven important mining companies are interested in the property in Scofield, Ebbs and Talbot townships, which is said to contain extensive deposits of copper and nickel.

So the north is growing with all these things, and we need the gas as soon as possible. We do say with a certain assurance that we shall get it with the construction of that leg of the trans-Canada pipe line this year. It would also help in the decentralization of industry, which is one of the things in which the hon. member for Saint John-Albert is interested in.

It may also be of interest to the committee to know that as far as fuel is concerned, in the north, in the riding I represent, we pay as much as 25·8 cents a gallon for oil and as much as \$32 a ton for hard briquettes. When you think of that you know what it means to us to have gas for heating, and we are looking forward to getting it as soon as possible.

I had intended to talk tonight about the obstruction of the opposition. In fact what they have done in the house is not to oppose; it is pure obstruction, but I shall refrain from talking about that. One thing I want to say is that the Leader of the Opposition always takes the stand that all government policies are wrong and everything should always be done his own way, either by select committees or by royal commissions. Then he complains of the supremacy of parliament being ignored. Well, in this instance parliament will express its will and I hope the Leader of the Opposition will understand that once the majority has voted for a measure it is parliament which has spoken.

There was also the question of United States capital. I am not going to dwell on that, but one thing I want to dwell on is this. What will be the stand of the opposition a year from now if we have to take over the trans-Canada pipe line. It is a loan that we are authorizing in this bill; it is not a hand-out. This loan is guaranteed by the assets of the Trans-Canada Pipe Lines. Where will you be next year if the assets have to be taken over? If that happens will you then stay with your friends of the C.C.F. party who are for public ownership? Will you follow the motion which the young Conservatives passed, asking that it should be built under public ownership? I just wonder about the hon. member for Dufferin-Simcoe, who